

November 27, 2018

Ms. Courtney Avery, Administrator Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board 525 West Jefferson, Second Floor Springfield, IL 62761

HEALTH FACILITIES & SERVIEW BOARD

DEC **03** 5018

BECEINED

Dear Ms. Avery:

I am writing to express the Great River Economic Development Foundation's Executive Committee and Staff support of Quincy Medical Group's proposed surgery center in Quincy (Project No. 18-042).

Quincy Medical Group has long been vital to the economic success of the Quincy community, and the surgery center will assist Great River Economic Development Foundation in its mission to maintain and improve the economic vitality of Quincy and Adams County by providing access to the latest and best to health care in our region.

Quincy Medical Group's decision to utilize the former Bergner's building for healthcare services is a creative re-purposing of a space that is truly integral to the economic success of Quincy. The unique building re-use will replace lost tax revenues due to the Bergner's closing, and, due to Quincy Medical Group's unique and central location, has the potential to be an asset to both existing and potential new business in our region. Attracting and retaining high quality employees in all categories is enhanced in a community where quality health care is abundant and this proposed project will have that impact.

Quincy Medical Group is already the fourth largest employer in Adams County. The proposed surgery center is expected to generate construction related jobs during the construction and/or renovation period, along with additional permanent full-time healthcare jobs. The surgery center is also expected to further facilitate the recruitment of highly skilled and specialized physicians to Quincy.

The Great River Economic Development Foundation strongly supports Quincy Medical Group's proposal for a new surgery center and urges the Board to approve the project.

Sincerely, /

Marcel W. Wagner Jr. CeCD

President

Great River Economic Development Foundation